

## The Royal Priesthood

The Nation of Israel was told that if they would keep the commandments of God they would be a Royal Priesthood (priest who would be kings as well)

Exo 19 (NKJV)

<sup>5</sup> Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth is Mine.  
<sup>6</sup> And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words which you shall speak to the children of Israel."

Now Israel failed in keeping the commandments.

Jer 5 (NKJV)

<sup>1</sup> "Run to and fro through the streets of Jerusalem; See now and know; And seek in her open places If you can find a man, If there is anyone who executes judgment, Who seeks the truth, And I will pardon her.  
<sup>2</sup> Though they say, 'As the Lord lives,' Surely they swear falsely."  
<sup>3</sup> O Lord, are not Your eyes on the truth? You have stricken them, But they have not grieved; You have consumed them, But they have refused to receive correction. They have made their faces harder than rock; They have refused to return.  
<sup>4</sup> Therefore I said, "Surely these are poor. They are foolish; For they do not know the way of the Lord, The judgment of their God.  
<sup>5</sup> I will go to the great men and speak to them, For they have known the way of the Lord, The judgment of their God." But these have altogether broken the yoke And burst the bonds.

So they couldn't be that royal priesthood that God wanted them to be. In the New Testament what we call New Covenant we have Jesus who did not fail, where Israel failed, and we are in him, So the church can receive the royal priesthood.

1Pet 2 (NKJV)

<sup>5</sup> you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

...  
<sup>9</sup> But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

"and has made us kings and priests to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen."

— Rev 1:6 (NKJV)

As priest we are called to make sacrifices

### 1) The sacrifice of praise to God

“Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name.”

— Heb 13:15 (NKJV)

### 2) The sacrifice of having a holy mind and body to God

Rom 12 (NKJV)

<sup>1</sup> I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.

<sup>2</sup> And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

### 3) The sacrifice of giving to the work of God

Phil 4 (NKJV)

<sup>16</sup> For even in Thessalonica you sent aid once and again for my necessities.

<sup>17</sup> Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that abounds to your account.

<sup>18</sup> Indeed I have all and abound. I am full, having received from Epaphroditus the things sent from you, a sweet-smelling aroma, an acceptable sacrifice, well pleasing to God.

So brothers and sisters we are priests we don't need a priest from a Roman Catholic Church or a Orthodox Church because we are priests. We serve under a high priest greater than any Pope or Bishop and who is that high priest?

His name is Jesus Christ.

“Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our confession, Christ Jesus,”

— Heb 3:1 (NKJV)

This same Jesus is also our altar to offer spiritual sacrifice.

Heb 13 (NKJV)

<sup>10</sup> We have an altar from which those who serve the tabernacle have no right to eat.

<sup>11</sup> For the bodies of those animals, whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest for sin, are burned outside the camp.

<sup>12</sup> Therefore Jesus also, that He might sanctify the people with His own blood, suffered outside the gate.

<sup>13</sup> Therefore let us go forth to Him, outside the camp, bearing His reproach.